

for indicating the tape pressing and transferring position of the head main body.

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 7 and 9-12 are amended.

Applicants express their appreciation for the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 7, 9 and 10.

The Office Action objects to claims 7, 9 and 10 because of a typographical error in each of these claims. The claims are amended to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The claims are amended to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 8, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as unpatentable over Koyama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,556,469) in view of Nishikawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,804,055) and Mendelovich et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,904,806). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Koyama et al. is directed to a coating film transfer tool that includes an operating device, a tape paid-out device, a tape pressing device and a tape collecting device. The operating device is configured and dimensioned for allowing hand-held operation by one hand. The tape paid-out device is provided in the operating device for paying out a coating film transfer tape for supply. The tape pressing device projects from a front end of the operating device for pressing the coating film transfer tape supplied by the tape paid-out device against a transfer area. The tape collecting device is provided in the operating device for collecting the coating film transfer tape guided through a pressing part in a front end of the tape pressing device after it is used. The front end pressing part of the tape pressing device is adjustable in angle about its axial center.

Nishikawa teaches a floor-type gearshift lever position indicator for a motor vehicle. The Examiner applies this reference to show a lever for moving particular

elements contained within a device and is used to indicate the position of those particular elements.

Mendelovich et al. teaches a tape dispensing applicator and a replaceable tape cartridge. The cartridge supports a role of tape and a leading edge of the tape extends outwardly from the case. A partial cylindrical cover member is connected to the first end of a shell for pivotable movement thereabout along a predetermined path to cover a first passageway. A slider having a first end which is pivotally connected to the cover member and has a button which extends through a first slot in the shell is movable between a first position and a second position. In the first position, the cover member covers the first passageway. In the second position, the cover member is removed from the first passageway.

Claim 1 is directed to a coat film transfer head device that includes a head main body in a rotating operation unit. Claim 11 is directed to a refill type coat film transfer tool operative for use with a replaceable coat film transfer tape that includes a coat film transfer head means. Claim 11 recites that the coat film transfer head means includes a head main body and a rotating operation unit. Claim 12 is directed to a disposable coat film transfer tool that includes a coat film transfer head. Like claim 11, claim 12 recites that the coat film transfer head means includes a head main body and a rotating operation unit. Claims 1, 11 and 12 recite that the rotating operation unit is fixedly connected to the head main body.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the applied art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the elements of claims 1, 11 and 12. Specifically, none of the applied art teaches or suggests a rotating operation unit that is fixedly connected to a head main body. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the features of the applied art because such combination would not result in the claimed invention. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 11 and 12 are allowable over the applied art.

Claims 2-5 and 8 depend from claim 1 and includes all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Koyama et al., Nishikawa and Mendelovich as applied to claim 1 and further in view of Blau (DE 43 24 383). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As indicated above, claim 1 is allowable over Koyama, Nishikawa and Mendelovich. Blau fails to cure the deficiencies of Koyama, Nishikawa and Mendelovich and therefore claim 1 is allowable over the combination of the applied art.

Claim 6 depends from claim 1 and includes all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claim is allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features it recites.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

APPENDIX I

(MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS)

1. (TWICE AMENDED) A coat film transfer head device adapted for use with and disposed at the ~~a~~ leading end portion of ~~the~~ a coat film transfer tool for pressing a coat film transfer tape onto ~~the~~ an object of transfer, comprising:

a head main body for pressing and transferring the coat film transfer tape,
a head holder for supporting the head main body rotatably about its axial center, and

a rotating operation unit fixedly connected to the head main body for positioning said head main body in a rotating direction,

wherein the rotating operation unit serves also as a head position indicating unit for indicating the tape pressing and transferring position of the head main body.

7. (TWICE AMENDED) A coat film transfer head device adapted for use with and disposed at a leading end portion of the ~~a~~ coat film transfer tool for pressing a coat film transfer tape onto the object of transfer, comprising:

a head main body for pressing and transferring the coat film transfer tape,

a head holder for supporting the head main body rotatably about its axial center, and

a rotating operation unit for positioning said head main body in the rotating direction, and

positioning means for positioning and holding the head main body steplessly around its axial center,

wherein the positioning means comprises an operation lever provided in a cylindrical supported portion, and a positioning engaging portion in a slit form provided in a cylindrical bearing opposite to an operation guide in a slit form, to be engaged with the operation lever elastically as being held at both sides, the rotating operation unit serves also as a head position ~~indicating~~ indicating unit for indicating the tape pressing

and transferring position of the head main body and the head holder includes the supported portion provided concentrically and integrally with the head main body, and the cylindrical bearing provided at the device main body side for supporting the supported portion slidably and rotatably.

9. (TWICE AMENDED) A coat film transfer head device adapted for use with and disposed at a leading end portion of ~~the~~ a coat film transfer tool for pressing a coat film transfer tape onto the object of transfer, comprising:

a head main body for pressing and transferring the coat film transfer tape,

a head holder for supporting the head main body rotatably about its axial center, and

a rotating operation unit for positioning said head main body in the rotating direction,

positioning means for positioning and holding the head main body at plural steps around its axial center,

wherein the positioning means comprises an operation lever provided in a cylindrical supported portion, and a positioning engaging portion in a slit form provided in the cylindrical bearing opposite to an operation guide in a slit form, and

the positioning engaging portion has a width enough to be engaged with the operation lever elastically as being held at both sides, and also includes a positioning recess for positioning the operation lever at a specified position in its longitudinal direction, the rotating operation unit serves also as a head position ~~indicating~~ indicating unit for indicating the tape pressing and transferring position of the head main body and the head holder includes the supported portion provided concentrically and integrally with the head main body, and the cylindrical bearing provided at the device main body side for supporting the supported portion slidably and rotatably.

10. (TWICE AMENDED) A coat film transfer head device adapted for use with and disposed at a leading end portion of ~~the~~ a coat film transfer tool for

pressing a coat film transfer tape onto the object of transfer, comprising:

a head main body for pressing and transferring the coat film transfer tape,
a head holder for supporting the head main body rotatably about its axial center, and

a rotating operation unit for positioning said head main body in the rotating direction,

positioning means for positioning means comprises an engaging bump provided on a cylindrical outer circumference of a cylindrical supported portion or a cylindrical inner circumference of a cylindrical bearing, and engaging recesses provided at specific intervals in the circumferential direction on the cylindrical inner circumference of the cylindrical bearing or the cylindrical outer circumference of the supported portion, and the engaging bump and engaging recess are elastically positioned and engaged, the rotating operation unit serves also as a head position ~~indicating~~ indicating unit for indicating the tape pressing and transferring position of the head main body and the head holder includes the supported portion provided concentrically and integrally with the head main body, and the cylindrical bearing provided at the device main body side for supporting the supported portion slidably and rotatably.

11. (TWICE AMENDED) A refill type coat film transfer tool operative for use with a replaceable coat film transfer tape,

wherein a tape cartridge containing a rotatable pay-off reel on which the coat film transfer tape is wound, and a rotatable take-up reel for collecting the used coat film transfer tape is detachably provided in a case which is held by one hand,

coat film transfer head means for pressing the coat film transfer tape onto the object of transfer is attached to the leading end portion of said tape cartridge,

the coat film transfer head means comprises a head main body for pressing and transferring the coat film transfer tape, a head holder for supporting the head main body rotatably about its axial center, and a rotating operation unit fixedly connected to the head main body for positioning the head main body in the rotating direction, and

the rotating operation unit functions also as a head position indicating unit for indicating the tape pressing and transferring position of the head main body.

12. (TWICE AMENDED) A disposable coat film transfer tool using a one-time coat film transfer tape,

wherein a pay-off reel on which a coat film transfer tape is wound, and a take-up reel for collecting the used coat film transfer tape are provided in a case which is held by one hand,

coat film transfer head means for pressing the coat film transfer tape onto the object of transfer is attached to the leading end portion of said case,

the coat film transfer head means comprises a head main body for pressing and transferring the coat film transfer tape, a head holder for supporting the head main body rotatably about its axial center, and a rotating operation unit fixedly connected to the head main body for positioning the head main body in the rotating direction, and

the rotating operation unit functions also as a head position indicating unit for indicating the tape pressing and transferring position of the head main body.

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